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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/754,618	01/04/2001	Rainer Pflug	PFLUG	4677

7590 10/29/2002

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EXAMINER

SY, MARIANO ONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3683

DATE MAILED: 10/29/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary

Application No.	09/754,618	Applicant(s)
Examiner	Mariano Sy	Art Unit 3683

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Mariano Sy. (3) _____.

(2) Attorney Henry M. Feiereisen. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 17 October 2002.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 7.

Identification of prior art discussed: U.S. Patent Number 5,921,684 and 3,737,204.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview(if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

MARIANO O. SY
PATENT EXAMINER

Mariano Sy

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

1. Applicant's representative brought up the issue that prior art "3,737,204" uses through hardened material only on outer ring and rollers and not on inner race because under repeated stress cycle through hardened steel are susceptible to fatigue cracking across the entire thickness of the inner race, see col. 3, lines 35-67 and col. 4, lines 1-17; while applicant claims that "both bearing disks made from a through-hardenable ferrous material". Examiner agreed with applicant's representative explanation. Examiner had stated in the final rejection, paper no. 5, June 12, 2002, paragraph no. 5 that "through hardened" rolling bearing components which include rings, balls, washers, and generally all parts of a rolling bearing are well known as disclosed by Volkmuth (U.S. Patent Number 6,203,634 B1), see col. 5, lines 65-67 and col. 6, lines 1-6. In view of this, Examiner is withdrawing the Final Rejection filed on paper no. 5, June 12, 2002 and a non-final rejection office action will be issued.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Mariano Sy at telephone number 703-308-3427.

ms M. Sy

October 21, 2002